



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **NEWS RELEASE**

Department of Toxic Substances Control

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\$12,000 Settlement Reached with Kern Oil Filter Recycling

Los Angeles --- The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced it has reached a settlement with Kern Oil Filter Recycling (KOFR) for improper management and handling of hazardous waste at its 974 Frontage Road facility in McFarland.

Under terms of a Stipulation and Order (Order), signed on March 23, 2004, KOFR will pay a total of \$12,000 as a penalty to DTSC. The Order formalizing the settlement is available on the DTSC Web site at www.dtsc.ca.gov.

The settlement stems from violations observed by DTSC inspectors during an inspection at the facility on July 8, 2003. The inspectors were responding to a complaint that the facility was improperly handling hazardous waste. The inspectors observed uncovered containers of used oil, spills on the floor, and drums of hazardous waste without adequate aisle space.

As part of the settlement, DTSC can reduce KOFR's penalty by \$5,000 if at least one of its employees, whose duties involve hazardous waste management, obtains a certificate of satisfactory completion of California Compliance School (CCS) training. CCS training provides students with "hands-on" instruction on how to comply with hazardous waste statutes and regulations. KOFR must submit the certificate to DTSC within 185 days of the effective date of this Order to receive the penalty reduction.

KOFR has corrected all violations found during the inspection.

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The Department of Toxic Substances Control's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment and ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention.